



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2015 Wisconsin Act 277
[2015 Senate Bill 599]

**Regulation of Unarmed
Combat Sports**

2015 Wisconsin Act 277 extends the current law regulation of professional mixed martial arts to all “unarmed combat sports,” defined as any form of fighting in which the objective is for a contestant to injure, disable, or incapacitate one’s opponent, excluding any fighting in a contest for which the rules prohibit a contestant from striking an opponent’s head. The Act also allows the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) to require more than one physician to be present during an unarmed combat sports match, grants DSPS explicit rule-making authority to implement and enforce these laws, and creates definitions for the terms “boxing” and “mixed martial arts fighting.”

Effective date: With the exception of agency rule-making authority, which took effect on March 26, 2016, this Act takes effect on March 1, 2017.

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LAK:mcm;jal

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature’s Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.